

## ***(Insider) culture tips for 2023: Salzburg – off the beaten track***

***They still exist – the undiscovered festivals, surprising initiatives, and unusual encounters, right in the middle of tradition-bound Salzburg. In the town of the Salzburg Festival and Mozart, there is a creative, committed scene for the young-at-heart.***

With the Mozarteum University and the Summer Academy of Fine Arts, Salzburg is a centre of education for tomorrow's up-and-coming talents. What's more – the World Heritage town is considered the hip-hop capital of Austria. Toddlers from one year old are introduced to culture, and a women's orchestra plays music only by female composers. A look behind Salzburg's classical façade reveals some surprising things!

### **Performance, acrobatics and dance**

#### **Tip 1: Salzburg Sommerszene**

Every summer, the Salzburg Festival makes the town a benchmark for quality and international lustre. Before the opera audiences arrive from all over the world, the *Sommerszene* devotes itself to the more extravagant and discursive aspects of performing. Representing a contemporary and interdisciplinary concept of art, here dance, theatre and performance are combined with installation, film, and concert. The programme includes national and international productions held in various venues in Salzburg and does not shy away from using public space as a stage. This programmatic concept has put the Salzburg *Sommerszene* on the European festival map since the 1980s.

- 12 - 25 June 2023, [www.szene-salzburg.net](http://www.szene-salzburg.net)

#### **Tip 2: Toihaus Theatre**

Since its founding in 1984, the Toihaus Theatre has become a permanent fixture in Salzburg's independent cultural scene. The focus is on experimental plays for adults and creating poetic, imaginative moments for the very youngest (from 6 months). Years of experience with children in theatre shows in the approach, the length of performance and the multimedia rendering of the works. Since 2007, the Toihaus has held the *BimBam* biennial festival, presenting contemporary theatre for the very young.

- [www.toihaus.at](http://www.toihaus.at)

#### **Tip 3: Winterfest**

The *Winterfest*, one of the principal festivals for contemporary circus arts, founded in 2001, has established itself as a highlight of the Advent period in Salzburg. International companies bring fans of all ages into the wonderful world of the New Circus. Besides brilliant artistic skills, subtle humour and stunning creativity, the live music is an important element of the performance. The *Winterfest* programme includes literary matinées, concerts, and catering. The location where the Volksgarten tents can be found has a history of providing entertainment, as the scene of fairs and other events as early as the end of the 19th century. The detailed programme for winter 2023 will be published in mid-October.

**[www.salzburg.info](http://www.salzburg.info)**

- [www.winterfest.at](http://www.winterfest.at)

### Tip 4: Hip-hop goes Theatre and Flavourama

Measured by population and event density, Salzburg is the hip-hop capital of Austria. In the autumn, especially, dancers and artistes demonstrate their skills in Street Dance, Break-dance and House Dance at festivals and crossover projects.

- [www.hhgt.at](http://www.hhgt.at) and [www.flavouramabattle.com](http://www.flavouramabattle.com)

## Music

### Tip 5: oenm

The Austrian Ensemble for New Music (oenm), founded in Salzburg in 1975, is one of the longest-standing European ensembles dedicated to the performance of 20th- and 21st-century music. Besides regular concerts in Salzburg, they perform at international festivals including the Bregenz Festival, the Munich Biennale, and the Warsaw Autumn Festival.

- [www.oenm.at](http://www.oenm.at)

### Tip 6: Mozarteum University graduate concerts

The Mozarteum University is an educational establishment of international calibre. It also holds specialist symposia and festivals open to the public, as well as graduate concerts in which young, up-and-coming musicians demonstrate their skills. Most of these performances are free of charge and are held in the Solitär on the Mirabellplatz as well as in the Mozarteum Foundation building and in Schloss Frohnburg. It is well worth taking a look at the calendar of events.

- [www.moz.ac.at](http://www.moz.ac.at)

### Tip 7: FSOA

The Female Symphonic Orchestra Austria, based in Salzburg, was founded in 2019 by the passionate conductor Silvia Spinnato. Now, the young professional ensemble tours as a musical ambassador, performing mainly little-known or rediscovered works by long-forgotten female composers of the Classical and Romantic eras.

- [www.fsoa.at](http://www.fsoa.at)

### Tip 8: Take the A-Train

Since 2015, the music festival Take the A-Train has aimed to turn the main railway station into a place for innovative performances. The varied programme ranges from a large open-air concert with fans dancing in the station square, to spontaneous flash mobs and walking concerts inside the station. The festival is rounded off with smaller-scale club concerts by local and international artists in various venues.

- 14 - 17 September 2023, [www.bahnhoffestival.at](http://www.bahnhoffestival.at)

### Tip 9: aspekte Festival

The Aspekte Salzburg Festival, founded in 1977 and held every second spring, is devoted to works by 20th-century Austrian and international composers. It offers an excellent opportunity to engage with contemporary music, as well as to get to know young musicians from Austria and abroad.

[www.salzburg.info](http://www.salzburg.info)

- [www.aspekte-salzburg.com](http://www.aspekte-salzburg.com)

## Art

### Tip 10: 70th anniversary of the Salzburg Summer Academy of Fine Arts

In 1953, the outstanding Austrian artist Oskar Kokoschka founded the "School of Vision" in Hohensalzburg Fortress. The first summer academy of fine arts in Europe, it is a meeting-place for people of all origins, ages, and social backgrounds. Curator and art educator Sophie Goltz, a native of Dresden, has been director since autumn 2020. The focus in this celebratory summer will be on expanded painting, which includes performance, scenography, film, and installation. Open Studios invite the public to view participants' work, and to experience the distinctive potential of the two locations: Hohensalzburg Fortress and the Untersberg stone quarry in Fürstenbrunn.

- [www.summeracademy.at](http://www.summeracademy.at)

### Tip 11: Künstlerhaus

The Salzburger Kunstverein is one of Austria's most prestigious institutions for contemporary art. It is based in the Künstlerhaus, which opened in 1885. Two exhibition rooms, the ring gallery and 20 studios for artists create an inspirational ambience. Every summer, the *Sunset Kino* cinema is held in the garden. The Künstlerhaus is home to many important artists' associations. The premises and the network are used by the outreach programme *ARTgenossen* and the artist collective *gold extra*. The oenm (Austrian Ensemble for New Music) is also based here. Admission is free to all exhibitions in the Künstlerhaus.

- [www.salzburger-kunstverein.at](http://www.salzburger-kunstverein.at)

### Tip 12: Museum of the Lost Generation

Since 2016, Salzburg's wide-ranging museum landscape has been enriched by the Museum of the Lost Generation, with the exceptional private collection of Professor Heinz R. Böhme. The exhibition is the only one of its kind in the German-speaking world, presenting artworks termed "degenerate" by the National Socialists. Pioneering research is carried out on many names included in the collection, which now numbers some 600 works.

- [www.verlorene-generationen.com](http://www.verlorene-generationen.com)

#### Further details:

Tourismus Salzburg, Auerspergstrasse 6, 5020 Salzburg, Austria  
Tel.: +43/662/889 87 - 0, Fax: +43/662/889 87 - 32, [www.salzburg.info](http://www.salzburg.info), [#visitsalzburg](https://twitter.com/visitsalzburg)

#### Press contact:

Martina C. Trummer, Tel.: +43/662/889 87 – 325, [presse@salzburg.info](mailto:presse@salzburg.info)

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[www.salzburg.info](http://www.salzburg.info)